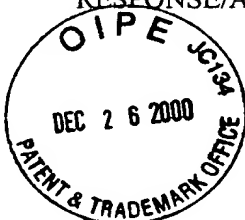


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Case Docket No. 6563

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on Dec. 20, 2000

Joan B. Tucker 43,962  
Name of Agent Registration No.  
*Joan B. Tucker*  
Signature of Agent

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an AMENDMENT for the patent application:

Inventor(s): Gary Dean LaVon, et al.

Serial No.: 08/828,005

Group Art Unit: 3761

Date Filed: March 27, 1997

Examiner: K. Reichle

Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLES HAVING REMOVABLE COMPONENTS

1. ☒ No additional fee is known to be required.
2. ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA*	RATE
TOTAL	*	MINUS	**	= 0	x \$18 =
INDEP.	*	MINUS	***	= 0	x \$80 =
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM					+ \$270 =
					TOTAL \$0.00

\* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

\*\* If the highest number of total claims previously paid for is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

\*\*\* If the highest number of independent claims previously paid for is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

3. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby petitioned under 37 CFR §1.136(a) to grant any extension of time needed for timely response to the Office Action dated in the above-identified application to preserve pendency of said application. The processing fee under 37 CFR §1.17 has been determined as follows: \$ for a month extension of time.
4. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2480. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
  - a. ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.16.
  - b. ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17.
5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to make any additional copies of this sheet needed to accomplish the purposes provided for herein and to charge any fee for such copies to Deposit Account No. 16-2480.

*Joan B. Tucker*  
Joan B. Tucker  
Agent for Applicant(s)  
Registration No. 43,962  
Tel. No. (513) 626-1811



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 20, 2000

Joan B. Tucker 43,962  
Name of Agent Reg. No.  
*Joan B. Tucker*  
Signature of Agent

#22/Req for  
Reconsideration  
mail  
1-4-01

Case 6563

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of :  
Gary Dean LaVon et al. :  
Serial No.: 08/828,005 : Group Art Unit 3761  
Filed: March 27, 1997 : Examiner K. Reichle  
Title: Absorbent Articles Having Removable :  
Components :

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the November 30, 2000 Office Action in the above-identified case, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 11-12, 17, 20, 32-33, 37-39, 43-44, and 82-89 remain in the application. No additional claims fee is due.

Restriction Requirement

Restriction of Applicants' claimed invention has been required under 35 U.S.C. 121. Applicants are requesting the Examiner to provide clarity in the identification of patentably distinct groups to be prosecuted separately on the merits so that Applicants can comply with 35 U.S.C. 121 in the election of species within the elected group.

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 11 and 33 are generic, and then requested applicants to select patently distinct groups which include both of these generic claims. For example, the Examiner identified the following patently distinct groups:

Group I: Claims directed to Figures 9-10 and one of the acquisition layer compositions comprising an absorbent foam and one of the acquisition/distribution layer compositions comprising polymeric foam material and one of the second absorbent core component materials and one of the third absorbent core component materials and one of the storage/redistribution layer compositions comprising fibrous nowoven materials or polymeric foam materials.